Seven militants killed in Lakki operation

By Ghulam Mursalin Marwat

LAKKI MARWAT: Seven terrorists were killed on Saturday in a joint operation conducted by police and the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD), with the support of villagers in the Takhtikhel area of Lakki Marwat district, officials said.

The regional police officer's (RPO) spokesperson confirmed the clash between law enforcers and terrorists. "A large police contingent backed by CTD commandos was dispatched to the remote rural area when local police authorities received credible information about the presence of Fitna al-Khawarij terrorists," he said, using an official term for the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

He added that a fierce gun battle erupted when law enforcers tried to surround the terrorists in the border area between Lakki Marwat and Bannu.

According to the official, seven terrorists were killed in an exchange of fire that lasted several hours. "The police first recovered five bodies and then two more bodies of terrorists were found during a search operation," he said, adding that no policemen were hurt in the fighting.

The regional police chief said the militants had initially moved into the Shaikh Landak area, within the Havaid police jurisdiction, to attack a police post. He told reporters when police, with the support of residents, swung into action, the terrorists fled towards Takhtikhel, where they were again confronted by police and villagers. "The terrorists were surrounded by the police and armed tribesmen of both districts," he said, adding that police had seized arms and ammunition from the slain militants and launched a search for their fleeing accomplices.

"Law enforcers are busy in the sanitisation operation to clear the area of other terrorists and recover the bodies of more slain Khawarij, if any," he said.

RPO Khan said the militants' hideouts were being identified with the help of locals. "These operations are proof of the police's strong resolve and commitment to eliminate the menace of terrorism," he asserted.

KP police chief Zulfiqar Hameed praised the police for their "quick and effective action" against Fitna al-Khawarij

Bridge blown up

Separately, a small bridge was blown up with explosives in the Masoomabad area on the Bannu-Miranshah Road on Friday night.

A police official said an improvised explosive device planted under the culvert exploded, damaging part of the bridge. He said the blast was heard across the locality. "Luckily, no human loss occurred as a result of the explosion," he added.

Quadcopter strike

Meanwhile, four people, including two teenagers, were injured in a quadcopter strike in the Sherikhel area of Lakki Marwat on Friday evening. A police official said that based on initial reports, explosives were dropped from a quadcopter on a cricket ground where villagers had gathered to watch a match.

"The injured were shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital," the official said.

Also on Saturday, RPO Sajjad Khan paid an unannounced visit to parts of Bannu city to review security arrangements, traffic management and police deployment at key public places.

Epstein termed Imran major 'threat to peace'

Continued from Page 1

earned a reputation as a playboy, which he began to tone down soon after 1992.

As the reports of Mr Khan's mention in Epstein's emails circulated on social media, users also reshared a picture of the PTI founder and British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell from a 1990 party, published by the stock photography website Shutterstock. Ms Maxwell, currently serving a 20-year prison sentence, was found guilty in 2021 by a jury in New York of helping Epstein sexually abuse teenage girls.

Powerful contacts

The latest batch from Epstein's emails illustrates the extraordinary scope of his contacts with powerful people, ranging from a top adviser to US President Donald Trump to Britain's former prince Andrew.

Epstein's emails also suggested that Mr Trump was aware of the financier's sexual abuse and definitely "knew about the girls". The US president has denied any involvement in or knowledge of the sex-trafficking activities of his former friend.

The United States House of Representatives is expected to vote next week on trying to force the release of evidence gathered on Epstein by law enforcement over the years, including the identities of the men suspected of participating in his alleged sex trafficking ring. Mr Trump has angrily called the push for more transparency a "hoax", while simultaneously demanding a probe of Epstein's links to others, including former US president Bill Clinton.

Documents already released by Democrats in Congress include email exchanges running from 2009 to 2019, when Epstein died in detention while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges.

President calls for national harmony on Tolerance Day

Urges citizens to 'stand firm' against hate, prejudice

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Saturday said Pakistan reaffirms its unwavering commitment to promoting understanding, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence as the world observed the International Day for Tolerance.

In a message for the tolerance day, observed on Nov 16, President Zardari emphasised the need for cooperation in a connected world.

"In today's globalised world, where cultures and communities are more connected than ever, it is vital to foster dialogue, empathy and cooperation," he said, highlighting that the Islamic teachings inherently champion tolerance, emphasising compassion, justice, and respect for humanity.

The president also invoked the vision of the country's founder, Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who he said envisioned Pakistan as a nation where people of every faith and background could live in harmony.

"It is our collective duty to uphold that vision and build a society based on inclusivity and respect," he added.

The president highlighted that the freedom to profess religion is enshrined in Pakistan's constitution, in line with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

He said that government policies are focused on eradicating socio-religious exploitation and enabling non-Muslim citizens to play a constructive role in national life.

"We are implementing the Interfaith Harmony Policy and Strategy of Religious Tolerance, duly approved by the federal cabinet," the president said.

He noted recent legislative and parliamentary actions taken to protect minority rights, including a bill passed by the Parliament of Pakistan.

"In a significant recent move towards institutionalising the protection of minority rights and promotion of interfaith harmony in Pakistan, the Parliament of Pakistan has also passed the National Commission for Minorities' Rights Bill, 2025," he said.

Additionally, President Zardari mentioned the formation of the Minorities Caucus in the Senate, which includes representation from the National Assembly.

Reboot tolerance: Editorial on Page 6

"The main goal includes promoting tolerance, interfaith harmony and ensuring effective implementation of laws that protect minority rights," he noted.

In his message, the president called on all citizens, especially the youth, to combat prejudice and discrimination. "I call upon all citizens, particularly our youth, to stand firm against prejudice, discrimination, and hate in every form," he said.

"I urge all segments of society, including religious scholars, representatives of minorities and the media, to educate the people about the spirit of love, tolerance, brotherhood and unity for making Pakistan into a safe haven with tolerance, unity, and social cohesion being the hallmarks."

He concluded with a prayer for the nation. "May Allah Almighty guide us to strengthen the bonds of tolerance, compassion, and humanity for a more peaceful and prosperous Pakistan. Ameen!"—APP

QUETTA: A vendor sells roasted corn and peanuts on Adalat Road.—PPI

Pipeline rupture halts gas supply to Quetta, other areas

QUETTA: Gas supply to Quetta, and several other districts of Balochistan was suspended on Saturday after a high-pressure transmission pipeline of the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) ruptured near the Mach area of Kachhi district.

SSGC spokesperson Salman Ahmed Siddiqui said an 18-inch diameter QPCEP pipeline had ruptured at around 5am, affecting gas supply to multiple districts of the province.

The interruption hit Pishin, Kuchlak, Ziarat, Bustan, Hurmuzai, Mastung, Kalat, Mangocher, Kad Kocha, and nearby areas.

The spokesperson noted that as an interim arrangement, gas supply was being maintained at a limited level. He added that gas at low pressure was being provided through the company's 12-inch QPL line to some suburban parts of Quetta, including Nawan Killi, Hanna, Sra Ghurgai, Pashtunabad, and Eastern Bypass.

"The SSGC's technical teams were immediately dispatched to the site and efforts are underway to repair the damaged pipeline at the earliest," he elaborated.

The spokesperson said it was too early to give a timeline for the completion of repair work.

However, he added that the company would continue to keep its consumers updated on the situation. — Saleem Shahid

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- Eligibility:
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  - ✓ The students appearing in Annual Examination of Class VI & VII to be held in 2026 are also eligible to apply for admission in Class VII & VIII.
- The written test shall be given from subjects of English, Mathematics and Genral Science.
- Candidates who qualify the written test shall be called for interveiw on the dates intimated to them later.
- Scholarship / Admission Quota
- Shuhada Quota is available for Armed Forces, Frontier Crops, Rangers and Police Department having Domicile of Sindh only.
- 5% Admission Quota is available for wards of Serving/Retired Persons of Armed Forces.

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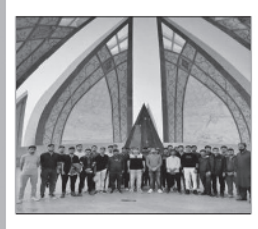
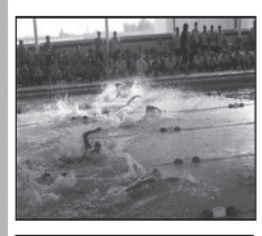


COLLEGE TRIP



SWIMMING POOL

- Availability of Admission forms & Prospectus
  - ✓ Applications on prescribed forms are invited for admission into class VII & VIII. Forms & Prospectus with payment of Rs:2600/- are available at:
  - ✓ Askari Bank (All Branches of Districts of Sindh)
  - ✓ Cadet College Pano Aqil
  - ✓ Application forms & Prospectus can be downloaded from College's Official Facebook page (Cadet College Pano Aqi

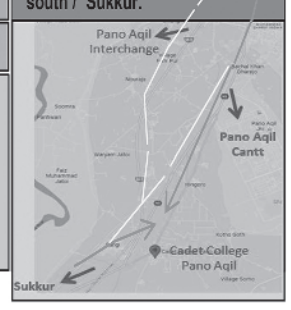
Note: Written test shall be conducted at following stations, if 20x and above candidates are available at each station:

i. Karachi ii. Lahore iii. Okara

Filled Application Forms be sent by post to the College.

Last date for submission of application forms is 13th Feb 2026	Application Forms shall be accepted with the late fee of Rs.1,000/- upto 15th Feb 2026. No admission form will be entertained after 15th Feb 2026	ENTRY TEST: The written test shall be held on MONDAY 16th Feb 2026 at CCPA and above quoted exam centers.

Cadet College Pano Aqil is located at a distance of 15 km from N5 interchange and 8 km from Pano Aqil Cantt towards south / Sukkur.



For further information and queries, contact College Admission Office on Telephone: 071-5700702 Mobile: 0302-3123125

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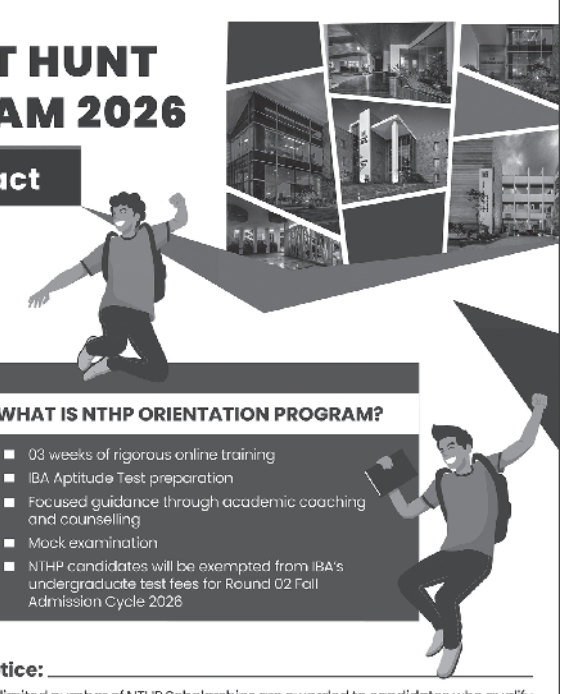

INTRODUCTION

IBA National Talent Hunt Program (NTHP) is a funded Orientation Training Program jointly organized by IBA Karachi and its **main sponsors, Ihsan Trust and Meezan Bank.** The program provides aptitude skill development and training to talantad and deserving students from across Pakistan to help them prepare for the comprehensive admission process of IBA Karachi's undergraduate degree programs in the Round 02 Fall Admission Cycle 2026.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NTHP ORIENTATION PROGRAM 2026

Financially deserving students eligible with either:

80% or above marks in HSSC-I examination from any Board of Secondary & Intermediate Education of Pakistan in year 2025 & appearing for HSSC-II examination in year 2026.

OR

80% or above marks in HSSC-II examination from any Board of Secondary & Intermediate Education of Pakistan in year 2025.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Applications open for NTHP Orientation Program	Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Application submission deadline	Sunday, November 30, 2025
Selected students will be notified via email	Saturday, January 31, 2026
Commencement of the online NTHP Orientation Program Admissions Cycle 2025	Monday, February 09, 2026

WHAT IS NTHP ORIENTATION PROGRAM?

- 03 weeks of rigorous online training
- IBA Aptitude Test preparation
- Focused guidance through academic coaching and counselling
- Mock examination
- NTHP candidates will be exempted from IBA's undergraduate test fees for Round 02 Fall Admission Cycle 2026

Notice:

- A limited number of NTHP Scholarships are awarded to candidates who qualify IBA's Aptitude Test (Round 02) after completing the NTHP Orientation Program. Selection is made by the Scholarship Committee.
- Please note that admission through NTHP does not guarantee a scholarship or financial assistance.

*The summer semester is not covered under the scholarship.

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LAST DATE TO APPLY Sunday, November 30, 2025

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Admission 2026

Undergraduate Degree Programs

Applications are invited for admission to the following programs:

BS in Medical Technology (4 years)
- Anaesthesia and Critical Care Sciences
- Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Dialysis and Critical Care Sciences
- Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy
- Operation Theater Sciences

Eligibility Criteria
- Intermediate Science (Pre-Medical) or equivalent from a recognized Board or Institute
- Minimum aggregate marks 60%
- The maximum age limit is 22 years as of the closing date
- Recent pass-outs and permanent resident of Sindh will be preferred

BS Nursing-Generic (4 years)

Eligibility Criteria
- Intermediate Science (Pre-Medical) or equivalent from a recognized Board or Institute
- Minimum aggregate marks 50%
- Gender: Female only
- The maximum age limit is 25 years as of the closing date
- Recent pass-outs and permanent resident of Sindh will be preferred

Diploma & Certification Programs

Diploma in Medical Technology (2 years)
Specialized diploma with hands on training. Start an early carrier in following areas of medical technology:
- Anaesthesia
- Critical Care
- Dialysis
- Nuclear Medicine
- Operation Theater
- Radiology

Eligibility Criteria
- Intermediate Science (Pre-Medical) or equivalent from a recognized Board or Institute
- Minimum aggregate marks 50%
- Gender: Male only
- The maximum age limit is 20 years as of the closing date
- Recent pass-outs and permanent residents of Sindh will be preferred

Certified Nursing Assistant (1 year)
Eligibility Criteria
- Intermediate Science (Pre-Medical) or equivalent from a recognized board or institute
- Minimum aggregate marks 50%
- The maximum age limit is 20 years as of the closing date
- Recent pass-outs and permanent residents of Sindh will be preferred

Application Procedure

Admissions at SIMS, Karachi, are conducted online. Candidates can access and submit their application forms through the online admission portal **http://sims.siut.edu.pk/admission/** the last date for application submission is **03-December-2025**

Application submitted by e-mail or by hand will not be entertained

Candidates who meet the eligibility criteria are required to take an entry-test. The entry test date will be communicated to the applicants via e-mail & SMS. Short listed candidates will be asked for an in person interview.

FOR DETAILS CONTACT

The Admissions Office, SIMS-Karachi, 5th Floor, Hanifa Suleman Dawood Oncology Centre, SIUT.
Phone: (021) 99215718, 99215752 Ext [2101, 2120] e-mail: admissions@sims.siut.edu.pk